

PREFACE.

in the sale of fruits or trees; or of those who, to gratify their vanity, might wish to publish to the world an account of rarities held by themselves exclusively: but possessing the advantage of the opinion of public spirited and skilful judges, he has adopted their choice, as affording the best criterion, and that on which the public may rely with the greatest confidence—referring always to known sources those who wish to possess farther information relative to the fruits delineated; and, in fact, endeavouring to publish those subjects, the merits of which are fully established, though not sufficiently known, rather than attempting, by his commendation, to raise the fame of newly introduced varieties; and wherever a deviation from this principle may be found by the notice of a recent production, the Author feels confident that every possible attention has been given to ascertain the correctness of the stated grounds of recommendation.

In presenting the First Volume to the Public, the Author begs to thank those persons who have favoured him with their assistance in furnishing specimens and information—he is impressed with a grateful sense of the liberality shown to all his requests. He has only now to hope that his friends will receive the efforts of his pencil with indulgence.

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